Female literacy in Andhra Pradesh

633. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have adopted strategies to improve the female literacy in Andhra Pradesh particularly in rural and tribal areas of the state; and

(b) If so, the details thereof;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SANJAY PASWAN): (a) and (b)The NLM has implemented Total Literacy Campaigns for basic literacy and Post Literacy Programmes in the State in which most of the beneficiaries were women. Currently the Continuing Education Programme is being implemented in the state to provide life long learning facilities to all sections of society.

Government of Andhra Pradesh has also taken up Akshara Sankranthi Programme from October, 2000. The main emphasis of the programme is to improve female literacy especially in the rural and tribal areas. So far three phases of the programme have been completed and 49.77 lakh women learners have been made literate. Currently fourth phase of Akshara Sankranthi Programme is being implemented in the State.

Revision of History book of NCERT for class XII

643. SHRI JIBON ROY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that NCERT has asked Sri Saradindu, Mukherjee of Hansraj College to revise the NCERT history book for class XII;

(b) whether the manuscript of Shri Mukherjee was corrected by an unnamed expert in March, 2003; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI RAMJIBHAI KATHIRIA):(a) Dr. Saradindu Mukherjee was asked by NCERT to write a new book on Contemporary World History for Class XII.

(b) and (c) Based on the expert referees' suggestions and comments, some suggested modifications in Dr. Mukherjees' draft manuscript were forwarded to him for his consideration in March, 2003. These were, however, not agreed to by him.

Mistake in History book for class XII

†635. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA:
SHRI JIBON ROY:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the gross mistakes incorporated in the History book for class XII, titled "Modern India" published by NCERT;

(b) who is the writer of the book; and

(c) what actions Government propose to rectify such distortion of historical facts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI RAMJIBHAI KATHIRIA):(a) to (c) Attention of the NCERT has been drawn through newspaper reports to some inaccuracies and errors in the NCERT History taxtbook for class XII titled "Modern India", authored by Satish Chandra Mittal, retired Professor of History, Kurukshetra University, Haryana. These are mainly editorial errors including some mistakes in the dates and names, which have inadvertently crept in.

In tune with NCERT's policy to constantly review its textbooks and remove any deficiencies in them, any errors in the book in question, will be rectified when the reprint version of the book is published.

Private self-financing professional colleges in Kerala

636. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recognised a few engineering and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.